

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are pending in the application. Claims 9-11 and 20-22 are withdrawn.

Applicant notes with appreciation that the Examiner has indicated that claims 6 and 17 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant has not rewritten claims 6 and 17, because Applicant submits that claims 1-22 are allowable as presented herein.

Claims 1-5, 7, 8, 12-16, 18 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,562,077 to Bobrow et al, hereinafter "Bobrow". Claims 1 and 12 are independent. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 1 provides a computer system for processing a paper document. The system includes capturing means for capturing an image of a paper document to produce captured image information, selecting means for enabling a user to select one of a plurality of options for action to be taken in relation to that captured image information, a document database storing image information relating to a plurality of documents and for each document information relating to action which can be taken in relation to that document, and processing means. The processing means matches the captured image information with the stored image information in the document database for at least one of the documents, determines the respective action information which can be taken in relation to the matched document, and produces a computer instruction as to action to be taken. The produced instruction is determined from the determined respective action information and from the user-selected option.

Bobrow discloses a system and method for sorting document images stored in a memory (col. 5, lines 36-38). A computer system 110 is coupled to various I/O (input/output) components including a facsimile 126, printer 127, scanner 128, and network 130 (col. 7. Lines 13-16). Operating in a memory 116 is a document corpus

search system 140 (col. 7, lines 26-27).

Corpus search system 140 is capable of performing structural analysis at two levels: at a lower level where specific layout formats of a document can be identified using features, and at a higher level where the entire configuration of an input document is captured using genre models that include different features (col. 21, lines 9-26). Using a genre model program interface 219, a user defines and/or loads a model of a genre, i.e., a genre model, that may be specified by defining a set of features which the model should include and a set of features which the model should exclude (col. 21, lines 28-40).

A search engine interface 218, for searching the corpus of document images, provides mechanisms for searching the text, the document metadata, features, and genre models stored in the memory file system (col. 22, lines 44-48). After one of the classes of searches in display area 900 is performed, the results are displayed in the search engine interface 218, such as by displaying thumbnails, or in any manner in which a user specifies (col. 23, lines 38-45).

Bobrow thus discloses a system and method for searching a database, that allows a user to associate different features with a document, to facilitate searching for that document in the database.

Bobrow discloses entering textual information or feature information in a search and matching the entered information with document images stored in the database. However, Bobrow does not disclose **matching captured image** information with stored image information. Therefore, Bobrow does not disclose or suggest "processing means for matching the captured image information with the stored image information in the document database for at least one of the documents," as recited in claim 1.

Furthermore, in contrast to the Examiner's contention, Bobrow does not disclose **associating options with captured image information** that allow a user to select

different actions to be taken in relation to the captured image. Bobrow simply discloses associating features to allow a stored image to be searchable; Bobrow does not disclose user selectable options for action to be taken in relation to the captured image information. Therefore, Bobrow does not disclose or suggest “selecting means for enabling a user to select one of a plurality of options for action to be taken in relation to that captured image information,” recited in claim 1.

In addition, Bobrow does not disclose storing information relating to each stored document, **which relates to action which can be taken in relation to that stored document**. As discussed above, Bobrow simply discloses associating feature information with stored documents. Therefore, Bobrow does not disclose or suggest “a document database storing image information relating to a plurality of documents and for each document information relating to action which can be taken in relation to that document,” as recited in claim 1.

Likewise, as Bobrow does not disclose or suggest action information or user selected options as recited in claim 1, Bobrow also does not disclose or suggest a processor “for determining the respective action information which can be taken in relation to the matched document, and for producing a computer instruction as to action to be taken, the produced instruction determined from the determined respective action information and from the user-selected option, as recited in claim 1.

Thus, Bobrow fails to disclose or suggest the elements of claim 1. Therefore, claim 1 is patentable over Bobrow.

Claims 2-5, 7 and 8 depend from claim 1. For at least reasoning similar to that provided in support of the patentability of claim 1, claims 2-5, 7 and 8 are patentable over Bobrow.

Independent claim 12 includes recitals similar to claim 1. For at least reasoning similar to that provided in support of the patentability of claim 1, claim 12 is patentable

over Bobrow.


Claims 13-16, 18 and 19 depend from claim 12. For at least reasoning similar to that provided in support of the patentability of claim 12, claims 13-16, 18 and 19 are patentable over Bobrow.

For the reasons set forth above, the rejection of claims 1-5, 7, 8, 12-16, 18 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bobrow is overcome. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1-5, 7, 8, 12-16, 18 and 19 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

An indication of the allowability of all pending claims by issuance of a Notice of Allowability is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 7/23/05



Paul D. Greeley
Reg. No. 31,019
Attorney for Applicant
Ohlandt, Greeley, Ruggiero & Perle, LLP
One Landmark Square, 10th Floor
Stamford, CT 06901-2682
Tel: (203) 327-4500
Fax: (203) 327-6401